

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-7. (Canceled)

1 8. (Original) A nail clipping assembly including a pair of nail clippers for
2 clipping a finger or toe nail, said nail clippers having an upper arm and a
3 lower arm, each arm having a blade end and a joined end and said upper
4 and lower arms being joined at their joined ends and said upper arm
5 having an upper blade at its blade end and said lower arm having a lower
6 blade at its blade end, said upper and lower blades being aligned to meet
7 to form a cutting line and an operating lever held to said pair of nail
8 clippers so that the depression of said operating lever causes said upper
9 blade to move downwardly and meet said lower blade to create a cutting
10 action wherein the improvement comprises:

11 a holder having a hand graspable portion, a top portion including a
12 nail clipper holding area, a bottom, a back and a cutting end, said holder
13 supporting a light source at its cutting end and said holder having a pair of
14 fingernail guides extending forwardly with respect to said cutting line and
15 positioned so that a bottom edge of each fingernail guide is horizontally
16 aligned between a lowermost portion of said upper blade and an
17 uppermost portion of the lower blade when said nail clippers are oriented
18 horizontally whereby a subject's fingernail is guided into a space between
19 said upper and lower blades.

1 9. (Previously presented) The nail clipping assembly of claim 8 wherein said
2 fingernail guides are horizontally spaced to expose a majority of the subject's
3 fingernail at a line where the fingernail extends outwardly from the subject's
4 finger when the finger is in a cutting position with the finger located in the space
5 between said upper and lower blades.

10. (Previously presented) The nail clipping assembly of claim 8 wherein said nail clipper holding area is a recess which extends upwardly from a floor to cover sides of said nail clipper.

1 11. (Previously presented) An ergonomic handle for supporting a nail clipper
2 having an upper arm and a lower arm, each arm having a blade end and a
3 joined end and said upper and lower arms being joined at their joined
4 ends and said upper arm having an upper blade at its blade end and said
5 lower arm having a lower blade at its blade end, said upper and lower
6 blades being aligned to meet to form a cutting line and an operating lever
7 held to said pair of nail clippers so that a depression of said operating
8 lever causes said upper blade to move downwardly and meet said lower
9 blade to create a cutting action, said handle comprising:

10 a hand graspable handle of sufficient girth and length to permit a
11 user's hand to surround the graspable handle so that the user's palm is on
12 a first side of the handle and a user's fingers grasp the opposite side and
13 the user's thumb extends over a top edge of the hand graspable handle;

14 a nail clipper recess formed in said top edge and said nail clipper
15 recess being shaped to surround sides of a pair of nail clippers, and
16 having a bottom upon which a pair of nail clippers can rest and a back end
17 portion to prevent the rearward movement of the pair of nail clippers with
18 respect to said handle and the nail clipper recess having an open front
19 end to permit a user to insert a fingernail in a clipping portion of said pair
20 of nail clippers whereby a pair of nail clippers can be easily supported by
21 a user's hand during a nail clipping operation; and

22 wherein said hand graspable handle has a pair of opposed
23 fingernail guides extending inwardly at said open front end and positioned
24 so that when a pair of nail clippers is inserted in said nail clipper recess
25 the opposed fingernail guides extend beyond a front edge of said pair of
26 nail clippers and a bottom edge of each of said opposed fingernail guides

27 is horizontally aligned between a lowermost portion of said upper blade
28 and an uppermost portion of said lower blade of said pair of nail clippers.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) The ergonomic handle of claim 11 wherein said nail clipper
recess has an upwardly extending tab for passing through a hole in a rear
end of said pair of nail clippers.

14. (Original) The ergonomic handle of claim 11 wherein said hand graspable
handle curves upwardly toward its front end.

15-20 (Cancelled)

1 21. (Previously presented) A method for cutting a child's fingernails using finger nail
2 clippers, the method comprising:
3 turning on a light residing in a forward portion of a handle, the handle supporting
4 said finger nail clippers;
5 holding a hand graspable portion of the handle between a care giver's fingers
6 and palm;
7 resting an index finger proximal to and behind blades of the finger nail clippers,
8 on a rest provided by cooperation of the forward portion and a transition portion, the
9 forward portion having a smaller cross-section than the hand graspable portion and the
10 transition portion residing between the forward portion and the hand graspable portion;
11 positioning blades of the fingernail clippers to cut a finger nail;
12 illuminating an interior of a finger under the finger nail; and
13 depressing a operating lever to cut the finger nail.

1 22. **(New)** A method for cutting a child's fingernails, the method comprising:
2 turning on a light residing in a forward portion of a handle, the handle supporting
3 finger nail clippers;
4 holding the handle in a care giver's hand;
5 positioning the handle to position the light close to the end of a child's finger
6 having a finger interior;
7 illuminating the finger interior under the finger nail using the light;
8 positioning blades of the fingernail clippers to cut the finger nail; and
9 depressing an operating lever to cut the finger nail.

23. **(New)** The method of Claim 22, wherein turning on a light residing in a forward portion of a handle comprises turning on a light residing in the forward portion of the handle beneath fingernail clipper blades.

24. **(New)** The method of Claim 22, wherein holding the handle in a care giver's hand comprises holding a hand graspable portion of the handle between the care giver's fingers and palm.

25. **(New)** The method of Claim 24, further including resting an index finger proximal to and behind fingernail clipper blades of the finger nail clippers.

1 26. **(New)** The method of Claim 25, wherein resting an index finger proximal to and
2 behind blades of the finger nail clippers comprises resting the index finger proximal to
3 and behind blades of the finger nail clippers on a rest provided by cooperation of the
4 forward portion and a transition portion, the forward portion having a smaller
5 cross-section than the hand graspable portion and the transition portion residing
6 between the forward portion and the hand graspable portion.

27. **(New)** The method of Claim 22, wherein positioning the handle to position the light close to the end of the child's finger comprises positioning the handle to position the light within 1/8 inch of the end of the child's finger.
28. **(New)** The method of Claim 22, wherein positioning the handle to position the light close to the end of the child's finger comprises positioning the handle close enough to the end of the child's finger to illuminate the interior of the child's finger.
29. **(New)** The method of Claim 28, wherein positioning the handle to position the light close to the end of the child's finger comprises positioning the handle close enough to the end of the child's finger to illuminate the interior of the child's finger and to cause a nail ledge to appear dark in color.
30. **(New)** The method of Claim 22, wherein positioning the handle to position the light close to the end of the child's finger comprises positioning the handle close enough to the end of the child's finger to cause the light to touch the child's finger.
31. **(New)** The method of Claim 22, wherein positioning blades of the fingernail clippers to cut the finger nail comprises using at least one guide to assist in position the blades of the fingernail clippers to cut the finger nail.
32. **(New)** The method of Claim 31, wherein positioning blades of the fingernail clippers to cut the finger nail comprises using at least one guide to position the blades of the fingernail clippers to cut the finger nail, wherein most of an extending part of the finger nail is observable through the at least one guide.
33. **(New)** The method of Claim 22, wherein positioning blades of the fingernail clippers to cut the finger nail comprises:
- observing the illuminated finger interior to distinguish a nail ledge; and
 - positioning the blades to based on the observation of the nail ledge.